

REMARKS

The specification and claim 1 have been amended to remove an obvious typographical error. "A" being divalent as shown in the formula, it is clear to those skilled in the art that CH(COOH) and C(COOH)₂ were intended rather than CH₂COOH and CH(COOH)₂. It is known to those skilled in the art that carbon atom has 4 valencies. Claims 3-27, 37-38, and 53-55 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any canceled subject matter in a continuation, continuation-in-part, divisional application, or other application. Cancellation of any subject matter should not be construed as abandonment of that subject matter.

A favorable decision is solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



Xavier Pillai, Reg. No. 39,799
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.
Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4900
180 North Stetson Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60601-6780
(312) 616-5600 (telephone)
(312) 616-5700 (facsimile)

Date: March 2, 2005